

*Ophalacrinicola* Feb'y 9<sup>th</sup> 1866

My dear Member

It has and under much difficulty I have got together a set of my Spiders as I promised you at your rooms. I intended to have laid them all out before you as it would have been but want of time forbids at present. This confound office keeps me hot) I have done the next best thing having set off duplicates of exactly the same forms numbered them in two rows one for myself and the other to you. Be careful not to get any of the numbers mixed up the new through each of them so that we may compare them with each other in the "good time coming". I don't pretend to say that these numbers represent species or even varieties but they show the contents of my Herk in undetermined materials (lest I forget there is a fragment of *Habroclaw corrugata* among the Endopagous which I do not remember to have labelled) Perhaps we had better keep Ell's name "*Nidiphagan vaginatus*" although the specimen is Heslop and his description clearly refer to a form of *A. Virgin.* but I suspect his Spec. contains the real thing (Vide Curtis Peals Wellington) & I had called it *A. gracilaceum*: *A. descriptus* Ell ("Common iron trap") and probably Wirthy, as he has no *A. Virginicus*, is the I take it *A. Virgin.* Linn. *A. lebrevalleyi* Ell & Curtis appears to be the same thing, but is not what I

mean in "Agr. argenteus" we all know being the  
very brevirostris one of this group. This settles Elliott's hastifolia  
now there other forms hereabouts. The ordinary form of  
A. Malacophorus, we all know, but there is a form with long-  
pedicelled spikes - one smooth all over with scattered spikes, and  
the <sup>var.</sup> glaucophysis Ell. This seems strongly to point to what I call  
A. tetraphyllum, (A. gracilis Carpenter) & also to glaucous forms  
of A. bicarinatus. But all these have few-flowered spikes (8-12) a  
character more constant than one would suppose.

There are three more A. Zambostachys, A. lebrastach. Ch! H. )

A. longipes, A. lebrastach. var distachys, Ch! H. ) and a species  
in Gray's Herb (A. trachystachys Ch. in.) from East Florida (Tuckley)  
Now how are we to characterize these things. It'll be ranged  
by & now. There is a difference in the thickness and comparative  
length of the pedicel of the single flower & the joints of the rachis  
& the color of the wool & size of flower. If these were constant  
they are hardly explicable. The presence of an awn-like spine  
atop of the pedicel is simply moon-shine since it will be  
unsatisfactory to rely on characters derived from culm leaves &c.  
still so far as at present advised we are in a nice fix.

The Passionis you have carefully revised: still I am  
rather disposed to pick out of P. dichot. some of the forms  
P. villosum Ell. is one of these spikes + fl. Ell.) and is also P. angust  
ifolium Ell. (sic Herb. Bon.) as late form or state. that I allude to  
under P. dichot. as var. scutellatum is another (P. purpureum Ch. in.)  
P. laxiflora, Lam. (P. pubescens, Ell. P. ciliatum Schlecht) seems distinct  
so does P. nervosum, Blume. Nos 11 to 17, <sup>+ no. 21</sup> inclusive, I think belong  
to one species. Nos 25. 26. 27 to another. No 18. 19. 20 to another

No. 5. 24. 23 to another. The others seem to be unlike  
Anisidium I have not critically examined of late but have  
numbered them for future reference.

Now I have given you material for many an employe  
moment in that cosy little room of yours & await  
with some impatience what you have to say.

Please, send my greetings to Dr. Torrey, & tell him  
I have no Cymarrachium scoparium to send him my supply except  
what is glued down being exhausted. But we are desirous  
to circulate in R. Ind Orient having given it a habitation & a  
name (g.v.)

You will observe I send you nothing but samples. Do  
you want anything else? Did you get my photograph  
from Gorlayne for yourself & Torrey? If so send me  
yours. Those to be sent to me have not reached me  
and I must ascertain what has become of them.

I have concluded to put into the package some seeds  
or Dr. May. Will you have the kindness to send  
them to him safely, and by the same steamer "Linda"  
I will write him. We have no reconstructed mail to  
this place but letters &c mailed in New York find  
their way here somehow sooner or later.

In the hope of hearing from you again I remain

Very Obedtly yours

J. D. Gilman